

**Soccer
tourney
under way**

Engineers,
Infantry reduce
field by a third.

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Fort Riley Post

**Scouts
visit
post**

Obstacle
course, video
'games'
popular

Page 11

Friday, May 7, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 47, No. 18

BULLETIN:**700 Soldiers
ordered to Iraq**

About 700 Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, at Fort Riley have been ordered to Iraq. The battalion task force is expected to deploy within the next 70 days.

This will be the battalion's second rotation in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Secretary of Defense ordered U.S. military forces to replace units that were previously extended beyond 12 months. Soldiers from Fort Riley will be attached to the 2nd Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, from Fort Drum, N.Y., as part of this troop replacement.

During the battalion's first rotation, from February to July 2003, the unit occupied and secured the Tallil Air Base and helped to liberate As Samawah.

The Army has 121,000 Soldiers in Iraq, 3,700 of which are from Fort Riley.

**Around
The Army****Fort Sill:**

Army News Service reported May 3 that Fort Sill, Okla., is re-instituted joint live fire in an exercise this month involving troops from across the country, and a new Joint Fires Course scheduled to debut this fall.

Fort Sill is hosting a Joint Close Air Support live-fire exercise. Soldiers from Fort Bragg, N.C., will parachute in. Navy F-18 Hornets and Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons will drop ordnance, including the Navy's MK-83, a 1,000-pound bomb.

The exercise, which continues through May 7, will also integrate multiple launch rocket systems, cannon fires and troops from Fort Hood, Texas, and the Marine Corps.

For more about this story, visit www4.army.mil/ocpa/news/index.html on the Internet.

Korea:

Stars and Stripes Pacific Edition reported May 5 2nd Infantry Division soldiers got a taste of trench warfare. Soldiers from the division's 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, in South Korea practiced storming the sort of trenches they would encounter in a conflict with North Korea.

Area 1's Cherokee Valley range includes a large winding trench system filled with targets - the perfect environment to hone the skills needed in trench warfare.

For more about this story and other U.S. military news in the Pacific and Europe, visit www.estripes.com on the Internet.

Fort Belvoir:

The Belvoir Eagle reported April 29 that youth from the post's 4-H club planted 43 American chestnut trees April 22 in observance of Arbor Day. Forty of the trees were planted in the Belvoir Ruins Historic Site. The other three were planted at the Belvoir Youth Center.

To find out more about this story and other Fort Belvoir news, visit www.belvoireagle.com on the Internet.

Desert re-enlistments pay \$5,000

Soldiers who stayed in could benefit from retro re-up bonus decision

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - An estimated 5,000 Soldiers who re-enlisted last year may be eligible for a pay bonus.

Bonuses up to \$5,000 will be retroactively paid to Soldiers between the ranks of specialist and staff sergeant and with 17 months to 10 years in service, if they re-enlisted March 18 through Sept. 18, 2003.

Only those who re-enlisted under the option of being assigned to a deployed unit in Afghanistan, Kuwait or Iraq are eligible, said Ron Canada, chief of Retention Management Division, Human Resources Com-

mand. Soldiers have until June 30 to contact their career counselors and request the lump sum payment. The program will remain open through July, but career counselors will have to submit all pertinent information to the Retention Management Division for review, according to military personnel message 04-141.

If a Soldier received a bonus based on his military occupational specialty, he is not entitled to receive the

lump sum of \$5,000 in addition to it. However, he is entitled to the bonus equaling the higher amount, the MILPER message stated.

The action to get Sol-
See Bonus, Page 2

Sales galore



Customers make selections and wait for change from Brandon Nylan (left), 10, and his brother, Xavier, 6, beside him. The boys were selling baked goods to raise money to help Brandon pay half the fee for attending a basketball camp.

Bargain hunters swamp Fort Riley

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

Glistening beer glasses tempted Roger Johnson of Manhattan to spend some money May 1, during the post-wide yard sale. The sale drew hundreds of bargain hunters to housing areas all over post.

Lt. Col. Robert Knock sold about 60 glasses from his collection but said he had about 60 more he didn't want to sell. Down the street, Fatema Yunker, her son, Antonio, and Sherry Peacock looked over a table in front of Lt. Col. Jeffrey Ingram's quarters. The table was set with numerous small items and knick-knacks.

In one hand, Yunker held a small garden trowel she found at another yard sale. "We've got a truck load (of things) down the street," she said.

In O'Donnell Heights, Becky



Newman was beginning to grill hot dogs about 11 a.m. She would sell the hot dogs and other food items to anyone wanting a snack or lunch. "We were selling breakfast before," she said.

Spc. Michael DeLong, a U.S. Army Medical Department Activity Soldier stationed at Fort Riley, ordered a hot dog before any were cooked. When Newman told him

they weren't ready, DeLong told her to give him a cold one. "I had to eat MREs for three months in Korea, I'll eat it cold," DeLong said.

Manon Emery served him the cold hot dog and the rest of his lunch and accepted his cash with a smile.

Shoppers crowded the housing areas throughout the post most of the day, looking for bargains that ranged in cost from a few cents to more than \$100. Some items were new; some items were old. Some items were childhood treasures, such as the large Raggedy Ann and Andy stuffed dolls sitting in high chairs on Watie Street.

Amy Reid said she finally decided to part with the two dolls she had owned since she was a child. She looked lovingly at the dolls as she told her story, maybe thinking twice about leaving them

See Sale, Page 3

Post loses 37th Soldier

Company commander dies in combat operation

Staff report

Capt. John E. Tipton, 32, of Fort Walton Beach, Fla., died May 2, in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq.

Tipton was the company commander for Fort Riley's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Infantry Division.

Tipton enlisted in the Army in August 1989 and served in Operation Desert Storm.

He later completed officer training through the ROTC program at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, where he was a Distinguished Military Graduate.

He received his commission in 1995.

Tipton had been stationed at Fort Riley since August 2000 and deployed

to support Operation Iraqi Freedom in September 2003.

Tipton died as a result of wounds received in an explosion while he was conducting combat operations. The incident is under investigation.

About 3,700 Fort Riley Soldiers are deployed to support Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Tipton's death brings the number of Fort Riley Soldiers who have died while serving in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom to 37.

A memorial for Tipton is scheduled for 9 a.m. May 12 in Morris Hill Chapel.



John
Tipton



Post/Robinson
Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy (second from left), commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, poses with war widow Vicki Hoffman (left) and Purple Heart recipients (center to right) Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Mosner, Spc. Jason Naccie and Sgt. Brian Easley.

Soldiers earn Purple Hearts

By Sam Robinson
Staff writer

Three 1st Infantry Division Soldiers received the Purple Heart April 29. The Soldiers from Company C, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, were recognized for sacrifices they made while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general of 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, presented the Purple Hearts during a ceremony attended by family, friends and fellow Soldiers.

"What remarks are sufficient when you consider the

sacrifices these Soldiers have made?" Hardy asked. "We have a patriot's Army, and it is times like now that you realize what war is about."

Hardy spoke of the sense of service, purpose and commitment and sense of sacrifice he felt.

Hardy asked Vicki Hoffman, wife of Sgt. 1st Class James Hoffman, a Fort Riley Soldier killed in action, to join him at the front of the conference room.

"We talk a lot of hoah and that's important but what is most important are our people," Hardy said. "They make the difference."

See Hearts, Page 2

Initiative protects land use Landowners, post will see benefits

By Jeff Buczkowski
Public Affairs Officer

Fort Riley is participating in the Private Lands Initiative, a federal program that encourages local landowners to restore their land to its natural state.

"It's an effort on our part to get private landowners involved with restoring

their private land and maintaining it in a good, healthy state," said Gibran Suleiman, threatened and endangered species biologist at Fort Riley.

Suleiman said the program benefits Fort Riley by promoting the presence of grassland species by increasing the size of their natural habitat. He

explained that maintaining healthy populations of these species keeps them off the protected or endangered species lists, thus preserving the training area on Fort Riley.

Some military installations have been hampered in using available training

See Land, Page 2



DES
The number of Henlow's sparrows found on Fort Riley kept it off the endangered species list.





Post news in brief

Rifle Range Road closed

After the inbound traffic closes at 8 a.m. each day, Rifle Range Road will be closed to all traffic for the remainder of the day to facilitate road construction.

Outbound traffic will be detoured to Trooper Drive. Traffic detour signs will be installed for the duration of the project.

Safety officers course slated

A safety officer/noncommissioned officer course is scheduled May 17-21.

This 44-hour week-long course covers safety program requirements, prevention of accidents involving Army motor vehicles, Privately Owned Vehicles, fire, radiation safety, accident causation, tactical safety hazard identification, off duty safety, POV safety, accident reporting, asbestos/lead overview, explosive ordnance disposal, Ammunition Supply Point, and range safety.

Unit safety officers and safety noncommissioned officers in the rank of staff sergeant and above must take this course within 90 days of appointment. The training will be conducted at building 409 starting at 9 a.m.

For more information, check with the battalion schools noncommissioned officer.

Radiation safety class set

Local radiation safety officer training is scheduled May 17-21.

This 40-hour course provides an understanding of the principles of radiation safety, radioactive material management, the potential for radiation contamination and the procedure for proper management of a local radiation protection program.

This course is mandatory for each individual appointed as an LRSO or alternate LRSO in direct support of a chemical agent detector or improved chemical agent monitor maintenance shop, tritium fire control repair shop, calibration facility or consolidated supply commodity warehouse.

Training will be conducted in building 319 starting at 9 a.m.

For more information or to enroll, call 239-0446 or 239-2334 to enroll or check with the battalion schools noncommissioned officer.

Ammo amnesty program needed

Unit commanders and ammunition supply and storage functions are to have an ammunition amnesty program in effect. Unaccounted for ammunition may be turned in at the Ammunition Supply Point, building 920, or placed in the amnesty box located outside the ASP gate, with no questions asked and without documentation.

The amnesty program is not designed, nor will it be used to circumvent the normal ammunition turn-in procedures. Unit commanders must make every effort to recover unused ammunition and turn it in to the ASP point as specified in chapter 11 of Department of the Army Pamphlet 710-2-1.

Ammunition turned in under the Ammunition Amnesty Program does not relieve commanders of the responsibility to account for all munitions issued.

Amnesty turn-ins may be presented to ammunition storage personnel during normal duty hours or placed in the amnesty box at any time.

For more information, call the Ammunition Surveillance Office at 239-9219 or 239-9543 or Ammunition Storage at 239-4222.



Post/Heronemus

Cadets help out

Jr. ROTC cadets from Junction City High School's Blue Jay Battalion serve hot dogs, chili, chips and a drink to Carolyn Wester (second from left) and her daughter, Diane. Cadet volunteers helping at the Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley food stand May 1, during the post-wide yard sale, were (left to right) Nicholas Treat, Ben Richardson and Juan Ortiz, commander of the Blue Jay Battalion.

Bonus

continued from page 1

diers retroactively paid was the result of a junior Soldier with the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Ky., making a poignant comment to Les Brownlee, acting secretary of the Army.

Last year, the Army had extra money and was looking to boost retention, Canada said. So it announced that it would give a special bonus up to \$5,000 to Soldiers who re-enlisted Sept. 19 through Sept. 30, Canada said.

While visiting the Central Command area of operation, Brownlee heard from a junior

Soldier who re-enlisted prior to the bonus being offered.

He told Brownlee that he would have appreciated getting a bonus for re-enlisting, too.

Brownlee later went to Congress and received \$25 million to retroactively pay those Soldiers who are eligible under the newly expanded dates, Canada said.

However, retroactively paying the Soldiers wasn't really done for retention, Canada said, since they had already re-enlisted. Brownlee did it primarily to recognize their duty over there, Canada added.

Hearts

continued from page 1

"God bless the families who let their Soldiers serve."

The Soldiers who received the Purple Hearts were:

— Sgt. 1st Class Joseph M. Mosner, who was wounded in action Dec. 16, when his patrol came under an improvised explosive attack near Khalidiyah, Iraq. His wife, Rhonda, and two of their children joined Mosner at the ceremony.

— Sgt. Brian J. Easley, who was wounded Nov. 22, while conducting a raid on a suicide bomber staging house in Ar Ramadi, Iraq.

— Spc. Jason A. Nacci, who was wounded in action when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle came under small arms fire and a rocket-propelled grenade attack in Khalidiyah, Iraq. His wife, Natalie, and their son attended the ceremony.

The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of an Armed Force who, while serving with the U.S. Armed Service, is wounded or killed in action.

Gen. George Washington established the Purple Heart. He designated it the Badge of Military Merit in 1782. The honor badge was granted to only three men, all noncommissioned officers.

cers.

A presidential order revived the Purple Heart on the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth. In respect of his memory and military achievements, Washington's profile appears on the front of the medal.

"For Military Merit" is engraved on the back of each Purple Heart, which is one of the top military honors to be awarded.

"We owe you far more than this. You have paid a huge price," Hardy said.

Hardy asked Hoffman if she had anything to share with the group. She simply requested to shake the hands of the Purple Heart recipients.

Following the Purple Heart presentations, Lt. Col. Oscar Hall, provisional commander for the 1st Brigade Combat Team, presented a \$4,000 scholarship to Hoffman for her granddaughter, Chelsea Macon.

The 1st Infantry Division Foundation awards educational scholarships to those children and dependents whose fathers were assigned to the division and were killed in action.

The 1st Brigade has lost 26 Soldiers in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Land

continued from page 1

areas because endangered species inhabit the areas.

"Only about 4 percent of the tall grass prairie remains and 80 percent of that is in Kansas," Suleiman said. "It's one of the most endangered ecosystems in North America."

"If we are going to keep what's left intact, we need to start here," he said, referring to Fort Riley and the surrounding area.

Grassland birds pose the biggest threat, Suleiman said. "If one of those species is put on the protected or endangered species list, we could be in big trouble. The onus is on us to maintain the population in good condition."

According to Suleiman, Fort Riley came close to having this happen in 1998 when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service considered listing the Henslow's sparrow, until they found a large sparrow population resided on the installation.

"It just shows how close we are and how we have to be proactive," Suleiman said.

Fort Riley, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and private landowners share the cost of the program, Suleiman said.

"Ninety percent of the program is paid for by federal funds and 10 percent by the landowners," he said.

Alan Hynek, fish and wildlife administrator at Fort Riley, pointed

ed out the benefits to participating landowners. "Landowners benefit by getting trees removed, increasing acreage and grazing area," he said.

"They get better gains on cattle, land values increase and grazing at a responsible level actually is beneficial to wildlife," Suleiman added.

Suleiman said the restoration begins with landowners conducting prescribed burning. Fort Riley then removes the trees using chain saws and large, mobile hydraulic shears mounted on tractors. Hynek compared the shears to "a big pair of scissors."

Removing the trees is especially important, Hynek said. "One large tree will cause grassland birds to avoid the area for nearly 40 acres."

Predatory birds such as owls and hawks use the trees as observation perches, he explained. Suleiman pointed out that each tract of land is unique, and the program is tailored to meet the specific needs of each individual landowner.

According to Hynek, Fort Riley has applied for a \$100,000 federal grant to help finance the program but also has funds in its budget that can be used.

Individuals interested in participating in the Private Lands Initiative can contact Suleiman at (785) 239-2537.

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Post/Heronemus
Three-year-old Jamal Bradford plays with one of the many toys families offered for sale May 1, during the post-wide yard sale.

Sale

continued from page 1

in her driveway for someone to buy and take them away to a new home.

Not everyone sold items they no longer needed or wanted. Some, like 10-year-old Brandon Nysten, just wanted to make some money.

Brandon wants to attend a basketball camp that costs \$100. His father told Brandon he would pay half the cost if Brandon could raise the other \$50.

Brandon and his 6-year-old brother, Xavier, may have made the \$50. Around 11:30 a.m. they were doing land office business selling baked goods at a stand with a sign that read "Keep Us Off

the Streets.

The post-wide yard sale officially began at 8 a.m., May 1, but many residents said shoppers arrived as early as 7 a.m. Cuts were lined with vehicles in some housing areas, making it possible to shop only by parking and walking from house to house.

Even though it was a special day, drivers had to obey signs posted to control traffic. Military Police stopped on Watie Street to write a parking ticket and put it on the windshield of a truck parked where it shouldn't have been.

Watie is so narrow that parking is allowed only on one side of the street.



Post/Heronemus
Sherry Peacock (center) discusses the uses of an item she found on a table at Lt. Col. Jeffery Ingram's quarters on Fort Riley May 1. With her during the post-wide yard sale were Antonio (left) and Fatema Yunker.



Post/Heronemus
Jill (left) and Roger Johnson look over beer glasses for sale at the Lt. Col. Robert Knock quarters on Fort Riley May 1. The Knocks were participating in the post-wide garage sale open to post residents and the general public.



Post/Heronemus
Raggedy Ann and Andy dolls, childhood treasures of Amy Reid, sit among other items for sale during the post-wide yard sale at Fort Riley May 1. Folding an item of clothing is Jennah Reid.



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Post news in brief

Commander, civilians to talk

Col. John Simpson, Fort Riley garrison commander, will meet with the post's civilian workforce twice on May 18, in Barlow Theater, building 7866, on Custer Hill. His addresses are scheduled for 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., and civilian employees may attend either session.

Bus transportation usually provided for the addresses has been discontinued. Ample parking is available but employees are asked to car-pool if possible.

Irwin hospital faces survey

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations will conduct an accreditation survey of Irwin Army Community Hospital May 12-14, to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established standards.

The survey results will be used to determine whether, and the condition under which, accreditation should be awarded the organization.

Requests for a public information interview must be made in writing and should be sent to the Joint Commission no later than five working days before the survey begins. The request must also indicate the nature of the information to be provided at the interview.

Such requests should be addressed to Division of Accreditation Operations, Office of Quality Monitoring, Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, One Renaissance Blvd., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181; faxed to (630) 792-5636; or e-mailed to complaint@jcaho.org.



105th MPAD/Hawel

State's assistant adjutant general visits

Brig. Gen. Jonathan P. Small (second from right), assistant adjutant general for the Kansas National Guard, observes members of the 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment training on new video equipment during a visit to Fort Riley in late April. The 105th MPAD has been activated for duty in Afghanistan.

Six Soldiers end careers

Three families will stay in Fort Riley region

By John S. Wollaston

Staff writer

Fort Riley said good-bye to six Soldiers at the April retirement ceremony at Ware Parade Field, but some of them won't go far away.

Family, friends and Soldiers of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech); 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division; 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division and post organizations congratulated the Soldiers and thanked them for years of hard work.

The six retirees represent 129 years of combined military service.

Three of the retirees plan to stay in the area.

Chief Warrant Officer William T. Jackson retired after 22 years service. Jackson was commended for his outstanding service, which culminated with his assignment as maintenance technical support operations officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 541st Maintenance Battalion.

Jackson and his family will reside in Navarre, Kan. He plans to pursue a doctorate of philosophy degree, work for the Department of Defense or teach high school and train and ride horses.

Master Sgt. Theresa A. Stiner retired after 20 years service. She ended her career as inspector general administrative assistant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Inf. Div.

Stiner and her family will live in Junction City. Her future plans include taking a summer off, spending time with her family and eventually getting a job doing something she enjoys.

Sgt. 1st Class Raymond A. Robinson Sr. retired after 24 years service. He last served as logistics noncommissioned officer in charge with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Div.

Robinson and his family will live in Junction City. He plans to take computer courses, seek government employment and umpire softball.

Staff Sgt. Paul C. Ghent retired after 20 years service, which ended with an assignment as Battle Simulation Center operations noncommissioned officer in charge, HHC, 24th Inf. Div.

Ghent and his family will live in Wakefield.

Chief Warrant Officer Dorla France retired after 21 years service. France last served as division automation technician officer, HHC, 24th Inf. Div.

France and her family will retire to Shelbyville, Tenn., where she plans to spend time with her family and pursue employment in the social services field.

Sgt. 1st Class Tommy D. Overton retired after 22 years service, ending his career with an assignment as noncommissioned officer in charge of the Emergency Operations Center, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor.

Overton and his family will live in Oklahoma City, where he plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in computer technology.

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Commentary

Friday, May 5, 2004

Fort Riley Post

Page 5

History lesson

Holocaust tragedy scares humanity

The United States and the Army first observed days of Remembrance in 1980. A Joint Resolution of Congress called for a week to serve as not only a commemoration but also a living memorial to Holocaust victims.

The purpose of the Days of Remembrance is to reflect upon, to learn about and never to forget what happened to the millions silenced during the Holocaust.

Sixty years after the Holocaust, all we can do is remember — remember all of the deaths and destroyed families, all of the fear and brutality.

When most people think of the Holocaust, they focus on the Jewish victims and neglect the many gypsies, Poles, mentally ill, and other “undesirables” who fell victim to the Holocaust.

All told, nearly 11 million human beings fell victim to the Holocaust while, for years, the world stood

by and watched.

The Days of Remembrance should remind each of us what can happen when prejudice turns to discrimination and discrimination is taken to extremes.

Our nation uses these few days each year to educate those who do not know and ensure those who do know never forget the unpleasant lessons of the Holocaust.

It is important to remember this event from the past and apply its lessons to our lives today.

During this important time I encourage each of you to become

better educated on a topic most would choose to forget.

Fort Riley held its annual Days of Remembrance Observation on April 28th at Barlow Theater. I am sure those who attended were impacted by remarks from a survivor of the Holocaust and a former Army corporal who participated in the liberation of the Dachau Concentration Camp.

Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy
Commanding General
24th Infantry Division
(Mechanized)
and Fort Riley



Maj. Gen. Dennis Hardy

From the Chief

Thanks for job well done; service given

To the Soldiers and Department of the Army Civilians of the Fort Riley Community:

Welcome home!

We salute you for a difficult job well done.

Over the past year, you voluntarily gave up comfort and safety, enduring a long separation from your loved ones. This was hard, but you carried out your mission with dignity, courage, and com-

passion.

You provided comfort and security to others through your sacrifices in a dangerous land, bringing hope to those who had known only tyranny, fear and oppression.

As a result of your determination, skill and effort, today the people of Iraq have a future.

It is our honor to serve with you and we are proud of the

example you set for all Americans. You lived the Soldier's Creed and epitomized the Warrior Ethos. You focused on the mission, never accepted defeat, never quit and never left a fallen comrade.

We are immensely proud of you and your families for your selfless service to our country.

Your service in Operation Iraqi Freedom epitomizes the

finest traditions of our U.S.

Army.

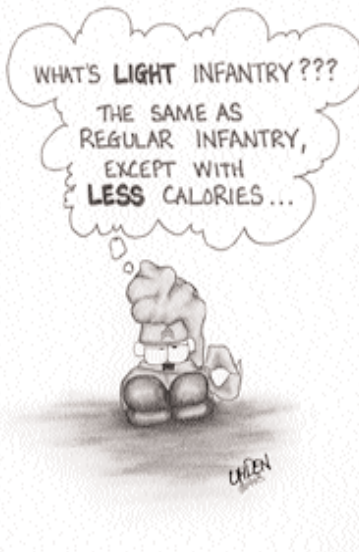
Thank you for your dedication to duty, your selfless sacrifice and your stalwart determination to defeat America's enemies.

God bless you, and God bless America.

Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker
Army Chief of Staff
R.L. Brownlee,
Acting Army Secretary

Grunt

By Wayne Uhden



A matter of personal character

While others sought money, Tillman sought to serve nation

By Gary Sheftick

Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- In an era when professional athletes often demand, “show me the money,” Pat Tillman gave up \$3.6 million and ultimately his life, to serve his nation.

Tillman shocked sports fans worldwide a few months after Sept. 11, 2001, by announcing that he would leave the Arizona Cardinals, turn down a lucrative NFL contract, and enlist in the Army.

Spc. Tillman eventually became a member of the elite 75th Ranger Regiment, where he served with his brother Kevin, who gave up a budding career for the Cleveland Indians' minor league baseball team.

Both brothers deployed to Afghanistan with the Rangers in

2002. They also served in Operation Iraqi Freedom last year.

Spc. Pat Tillman was killed during a firefight in southeastern Afghanistan, while on a coalition combat patrol that was ambushed April 22 near the village of Sperah, about 25 miles southwest of Khawst.

In a statement following the tragedy, NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue said, “Pat Tillman personified all the best values of his country and the NFL.”

Sen. John McCain of Arizona said that Tillman's example and humility inspires us all “to reclaim the essential public-spiritedness of Americans that many of us, in low moments, had worried was no longer our common distinguishing trait.”

That spirit of public service was the norm during World War II, when hundreds of professional athletes hung up their uniforms

to don fatigues. The first was Cleveland Indians pitcher “Bullet Bob” Feller, who enlisted two days after Pearl Harbor.

Among the NFL stars who served was the New York Giants' offensive tackle Al Blozis, who was killed during the Battle of the Bulge.

A rush to public service by pro athletes hasn't exactly been the case so far during the war on terror.

But Pat Tillman told his teammates in December, 2001 that his great-grandfather had served at Pearl Harbor and many of his family had helped defend America. He felt he needed to do his part.

Pat and Kevin Tillman stand out for their spirit of public service and for the extent to which they shunned publicity.

The brothers repeatedly turned down a multitude of requests for

interviews. The Tillmans said that they didn't deserve any more credit than the Soldiers serving next to them.

Even the Army News Service was unable to interview the Tillmans. After the brothers enlisted in 2002, a number of Army officials thought their story could help recruiting. Some were disappointed that the duo wouldn't talk to the press, but Army officials respected the Tillmans' request for anonymity.

Despite their efforts to avoid the spotlight, the Tillmans were eventually thrust into the public eye as they finished their service in Iraq last July.

The brothers were chosen as recipients of the 11th annual Arthur Ashe Courage Award, presented live on ESPN as part of the Espy Awards. The Ashe

award is given annually to those who serve a greater good outside the sporting arena, officials said.

Kevin and Pat refused to leave their duty station, though, to attend the ESPN broadcast. Their brother Richard accepted the award on behalf of the family.

Actor Kiefer Sutherland presented the Espy award to Richard, who said the family was very proud, but added that Pat and Kevin felt they didn't quite deserve it.

“Pat and Kevin don't think they are better than anyone else,” Richard said. They don't feel that the Soldiers fighting alongside them are giving any less than they themselves are, he said.

The Tillmans certainly didn't serve for fame or money. Nor do any of the thousands of others deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan,

Kuwait, Djibouti and other hot spots around the world.

It's often said that the true measure of a man's character is in what he does when no one is looking. That being the case, Pat Tillman is a true American hero — along with all Soldiers who serve bravely but quietly at the frontlines of the war on terror.

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Warrant officers authorized to wear new insignia

By Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON -- Army warrant officers change branch insignia this summer as a way of better integrating itself into the Army's officer corps.

Warrant officers will replace their "Eagle Rising" insignia worn on the left collar with their branch of service, such as ordnance, aviation or transportation.

Warrant officers will have to by the branch insignia; they will not be issued.

Regular commissioned officers have always worn their branch insignia on their left collar. Army leaders view the change to the warrant officer's uniform as a step toward full integration of the warrant officers into the branch-based systems of the larger officer corps, a personnel official said.

"Warrant officers traditionally have not been treated as part of the officer corps. We've kind of been in this strange gray area between the noncommissioned officer and the regularly commissioned branch officer," said Chief

Warrant Officer Albert Eggerton, the warrant officer personnel policy integrator for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

The role of warrant officers will increase dramatically as technology drives the battlefield, said Barr, now at the U.S. Army Signal Center at Fort Gordon, Ga.

Retiring the "Eagle Rising" insignia resulted from recommendations of the Army Training and Leadership Panel - Warrant Officer Study.

Forty-five initiatives came out

of the study, to include changing the chief warrant officer 5 rank to a silver-colored bar with a black line in the center of the bar. The rank is worn by senior warrant officers in the Navy and Marine Corps and was first approved in 1973.

The current rank, a silver bar with four open face squares, was always meant to be a transitional rank, Eggerton said.

"In the future we see an increasing role in joint operations, and it would make it easier in the joint world to identify us correct-

ly by wearing the same insignia that our sister services are wearing," Eggerton said.

The change in uniform is not the first step the warrant officer component has taken in its journey to be more recognized in the officer corps, Eggerton said.

A recommendation has been approved for a pay table reform for warrant officers. The proposed pay raise is to counter the targeted raises that noncommissioned officers received in 1999-2001, Eggerton said. It is less attractive for NCOs to become warrant offi-

cers because there is a much smaller pay differential, he said.

The monthly base pay for a staff sergeant with eight years in the military is \$2,516. The monthly base pay for a warrant officer 1 with eight years is \$2,928.

Other changes are in the process of being reviewed for approval, Eggerton said. They include combining the warrant officer education system with the officer education system and getting warrant officers commissioned at warrant officer 1 rank instead of warrant officer 2.

Army One Source Qs & As

Q: What exactly is Army One Source?

A: AOS is a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week toll-free information and referral telephone service available to active duty, National Guard and Reserve soldiers, deployed civilians and their families worldwide. AOS provides information ranging from every day concerns to deployment and reintegration issues.

Additionally, if there is a need for face-to-face counseling, AOS will provide referrals to professional civilian counselors for

assistance. Face-to-face counseling for Soldiers and other outside the continental United States is provided by marriage and family counselors contracted by existing military medical treatment facilities.

Q: How do I access AOS?

A: Simply call the following telephone numbers: (800) 464-8107 in the continental United States or the country access code followed by (800) 464-81077 if outside the continental United States.

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D-Day event planners seek vets, information

Special to the Post

U.S. Army Europe is helping arrange June 5 and 6, ceremonies in Normandy, France, to remember the sacrifices made on behalf of the nation and freedom 60 years ago.

Veterans and families or friends planning to attend events in Normandy need to know about registration requirements and understand local conditions to be able to take part in the ceremonies. Several Web sites provide information and the means to register.

The D-Day veterans' registration Web site is at <http://w2-60th.hqda.pentagon.mil>.

The United Embassy, Paris, Web site at <http://www.amb-usa.fr/dd> has more D-Day information.

The French government office Web site at <http://www.liberation60.gouv.fr> has information in English, as does the Web site of the French commemorative committee <http://normandiemoir.com>.

U.S. Army Europe wants information about veterans of the D-Day assault forces with family or personal connections to today's Soldiers.

The command wants especially to learn about veterans who served on June 6, 1944, with assault forces of the 1st, 4th, or 29th Infantry Divisions; the 82nd or 101st Airborne Divisions, or the Rangers of D-Day and who have a direct personal or family connection to a man or woman who has served with one of those same U.S. Army units in the current Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

The command asks for information only from those who wish to voluntarily provide the information. A U.S. Army Europe representative will contact the veteran and Soldier to ensure they do not object to sharing their story with the public.

Information should include the full names of the veteran and Soldier, the unit the veteran served with on D-Day, and the job or assignment the veteran had on D-Day. Information should be sent via e-mail to d-day@hq.hqsaureur.army.mil or faxed to international phone number 49-62-21-57-7129.

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Safety staff pushes protection

Division chief claims failure to prevent hearing loss post's biggest threat

By Matthew A. Fearing
105th MPAD

"Hearing is hitting on the radar screen," said Paul Inman, Fort Riley's Safety Division chief. His comment answered a question about the biggest safety problems or concerns on post.

Inman said failure to wear earplugs or hearing protection and not posting signs about noise levels are contributing to the problem.

Tom Tessendorf, an occupational health nurse at Fort Riley concurs with Inman.

"[Noise from] ranges, public works, heavy equipment operation, waste water pumps and any area where there is hazardous noise can be a problem," Tessendorf said.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration requires hearing protection be worn when noise levels reach 85 decibels or louder.

While newer generators are required to operate below the 85-decibel range, Inman pointed out that older generators and compressors do not have to meet the new standards.

There is an easy test for noise in the work area. Tessendorf suggested using the "Three Foot Rule" if someone is unsure about the noise level.

Using a ruler, measure 3 feet from the person with whom you're talking. If either of you have to raise your voice to be heard, the noise level is probably



105th MPAD/Fearing
Sgt. 1st Class Darren Heusel of the 105th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Kansas National Guard, demonstrates proper method to insert an earplug.

more than 85 decibels.

A military HMMV produces 90 decibels of noise, which is why Tessendorf reminds people they should wear hearing protection when driving those vehicles.

Capt. Jillyen Kibby, an audiologist at Fort Riley's Irwin Army Community Hospital, said some Soldiers won't wear hearing protection in combat because "they're concerned that they're not going to hear commands." Kibby has a presentation that shows how an individual's diminished hearing detracts from combat capabilities.

If a Soldier has acceptable hearing, they can detect footsteps in leaves at 100 meters. If the Soldier has poor hearing, indicated as

an H-2 profile, that distance is reduced to 5.5 meters. If the poor hearing is categorized as H-3, that distance is reduced to less than a meter.

The comparisons are as striking when comparing the ability to hear a rifle bolt closing.

For the Soldier with acceptable hearing, category H-1, the bolt closing can be heard at 1,000 meters compared to 210 meters for a Soldier with category H-2 hearing and 46 meters for a Soldier with category H-3.

To provide hearing protection and still be able to hear commands, Kibby says a new earplug is available.

The Combat Arms Earplug is designed as a two-sided earplug.

Too loud?

Normal conversation is conducted at 60 decibels. An alarm clock rings at 80 decibels. Motorcycles and lawnmowers emit 90 decibels. Rock concerts and power saws operate at 110 decibels. An F-15 fighter jet creates 120 decibels. An M-16 rifle fires off at 160 decibels.

— U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

She said one side has a filter that is open with normal noise, but gunfire or other loud noise triggers the filter to close.

The other side of the earplug is used for constant noise.

Information from the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine indicates the new plug's noise reduction capability increases with increased noise levels. According to the information, the new plug is color coded to aid in usage.

The non-linear side, the one that filters noises, is yellow. The solid linear side is olive drab.

Kibby said the new plugs cost about \$5.50 a pair and are being prepared for distribution to sol-

diers.

Kibby and Tessendorf said that getting a good baseline reading on a person's hearing is important. "During the baseline check, the technician will check for appropriate earplugs," too, Kibby said.

Hearing protection needs to be checked regularly. Tessendorf said, "noise muffs [and other hearing protection] get old and don't protect as well over time."

"There are a number of hearing injuries experienced by returning troops," according to Kibby. "[We see] ruptured eardrums from exploded IEDs (improvised explosive devices), sudden permanent hearing loss and tinnitus. With tinnitus, there is nothing that can be done," Kibby said while shaking his head.

A hearing conservation program flyer suggests people remember the four P's of hearing loss. Hearing loss from noise is "Painless, Progressive, Permanent and Preventable!"

It's the preventable part that gets to Kibby.

In the Fall 1995 "NCO Journal," Sgt. Maj. Kevin M. Skelly was quoted: "If I could change one thing from the past 20 years, it would be the constant ringing in my ears I live with now - all because I didn't wear hearing protection when I should have ... The only thing I can change now are the batteries in my hearing aids."

Referring to Skelly's comments, Kibby said, "If I can get [people] to understand that, I feel I have accomplished my mission."

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A new online feature will allow Soldiers to volunteer for "units of action" at Fort Campbell, Ky., and Fort Drum, N.Y., for at least three years.

U.S. Army Human Resources Command, formerly Personnel Command, spent nearly five months developing the Personnel Lifecycle Unit Selection System, known as PLUS2.

"Our ultimate goal is to give privates straight out of basic training the same ability to request

units as officers with several years in service," said Col. Nick Miller, deputy director, Enlisted Personnel Management, HRC.

The 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum and the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, will be the first units to use PLUS2. The 3rd Infantry Division, based in Georgia, is transforming into various units of action.

Next in line to use PLUS2 will be select elements of 4th Infantry Division, based at Fort Hood, Texas.

Miller said the system is simple: a Soldier goes to the HRC

Web site and clicks on the PLUS2 logo -- a Soldier wearing a Kevlar helmet. The site then offers two options, one for enlisted Soldiers and the other for officers. The officer option will begin May 28.

Soldiers may then fill out the form that follows and submit it as

a requisition for assignment or re-assignment to either Fort Drum or Fort Campbell.

"During the first open window period, which is May 1-31, there will be approximately 1,000 requisitions available," said Shannon Brown, a representative for Brig.

Gen. Rhett Hernandez, director of the Officer Personnel Management Directorate.

A requisition through PLUS2 doesn't mean the volunteer will be approved automatically. "An assignment manager will look at the requisition," he said.

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Fort Riley Sports & Recreation

Friday, May 7, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9

Sports news briefly

Outdoor Rec offers contest

The Outdoor Recreation Center is taking registrations through May 30, for a fishing contest.

Registrants should fish at Williams, Roblyer, Pritchard, Breakneck, Moon Lake, Vinton or Campbell Ponds to catch one of the 112 red, white, blue or gold-tagged fish on Fort Riley.

Cost is \$5 per person or \$10 per family. Prizes are \$20 for red-tagged fish, \$15 for white-tagged fish and \$10 for blue-tagged fish.

Anglers who catch a gold-tagged fish win an inflatable raft.

The contest goes until Oct. 31.

For more information, call the Outdoor Rec Center at 239-2363 or 239-6368 or stop by building 9011.

Local rowers seek coaches

The Kansas State University's men's and Manhattan High School boy's and girl's rowing programs are seeking coaches for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Practices are generally in the afternoon between 3:30 and 7 p.m. but are coordinated between the coach and rowers.

Four positions are available. A stipend is paid to cover expenses.

Previous rowing and coaching experience or Level 1 coaching certification through US Rowing is highly desirable, but any interested individuals will be seen.

For more information, contact Alan Koch at (785) 537-1452 or send e-mail to alankoch@cox.net.

Outdoor Rec offers boat

Fort Riley's Outdoor Recreation Center in building 9011 on Rifle Range Road now rents a new 21-foot Sun Tracker pontoon boat to eligible users.

Cost is \$125 per day or \$200 per weekend. A \$200 deposit is required to reserve the boat.

Maximum capacity is 13 people or 1,800 pounds. A Boater's Safety Test is required before renting the boat.

At Custer Hill Golf Course:

May 8 -- Golf course gaggle, 7 to 8 a.m.

May 9 -- Golf course gaggle, 7 to 8 a.m.

May 14 -- Commander's spring golf tournament

Families can skate together

The Riley Wheels Skating Rink offers family roller-skating on Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$6 per family of six people. Each additional family member pays \$1.

The roller skating rink also hosts private functions, such as birthday parties, unit parties, youth and school group functions and Scout activities for a rental fee.

For more information, call 239-3764



Lawyers compete in annual tourney

Pat Haley, an employee with the U.S. Federal Court in Topeka, tees off during the 11th Annual Lawyer's Day Gold Tournament at the Custer Hill Golf Course. Fort Riley's legal staff hosted 129 participants for this year's event tournament, played April 29, in a light rain that lasted most of the day. The tournament was one of several activities the post's Staff Judge Advocate's staff conducted in observance of Law Day, May 1.

Post/Wollaston

Tourney play



10th ASOS Goalie Randy Paine misses the ball, allowing one of 4 points by the 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry team. The Air Force kickers lost the game 4-1.

Engineers, Infantry win

By Gary Skidmore
Command Information Officer

The Fort Riley 2004 Post Battalion Level Soccer Tournament began May 4 and already the field of teams has been cut by a third.

During the first night of the three-day single elimination tournament, 924th Military Police Battalion lost to 937th Engineer Group, 2-1, and 10th ASOS lost to the 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, 4-1.

The Engineers came into the tournament after playing only three league games. They lost two of those, but won the third.

Team Captain Patrick Lachance said the group had just returned from a deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom and quickly put together their team for the end of regular play.

"We haven't had an organized

practice yet," Lachance said.

Justin Fahrenholtz, a major offensive threat for the 937th, scored once in their win. He scored again May 4 - for the opponents. He attempted to clear the ball from in front of his own goal but deflected it into the net, giving the MPs a 1-0 lead.

"I put way too much under it when I kicked it," Fahrenholtz said. "It was beautiful as it just sailed in for the point."

Evening the score at 1-1, the Engineers came back 15 minutes into the game with a head butt on a corner kick that sent the ball into the net.

A penalty negated the next score coming from a classic head butt into the net from another corner kick for the Engineers. The Engineers ended the first half in a 1-1 tie with the MPs.

The final point of the game came five minutes into the second half when the Engineers scored.

Although the MPs never scored one for themselves, the physical game they played was a challenge for the Engineers.

"They're a tough team," Lachance said. "They're one of the most physical teams in the league."

The powerhouse of the first evening's play was 1st Bn., 41st Inf. They dominated the Air Force, 4-1, in a show of stamina and ball handling.

Two players stood out. Kevin Ross assisted standout Barry Baptiste-Swift in scoring all four points for the Infantry. The Infantry players worked together like they had been playing for years. In fact, both the

See Soccer, Page 10

Golf pro offers free lessons

Special to the Post

PGA Professional Tom Petegrew of Custer Hill Golf Course at Fort Riley will offer free 10-minute lessons in May.

The lessons are being offered in conjunction with "PGA Free Lesson Month," the national growth-of-the-game campaign, and a joint partnership between the PGA of America, "Golf Digest," "Golf For Women" and the Golf Channel on TV. Nike Golf is the official sweepstakes sponsor.

Throughout May, PGA professionals will offer free 10-minute lessons to help golfers of all levels improve their game. To date, more than 4,000 PGA professionals have signed up to participate.

Custer Hill Golf Course will offer their PGA Free Lesson Month program on from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 15. To participate, amateur golfers must contact the Custer Hill pro shop at 784-6000 or 239-5412.

"PGA Free Lesson

Month is a great opportunity for local non-golfers to come out and get introduced to the game of golf, or for existing golfers to focus on any area they want to improve," said Tom Petegrew, head of business operations for Fort Riley's Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

"We welcome all those who would like to participate and encourage them to bring a friend or family member and come out and have some fun, regardless of skill level," he said.

In addition to getting a free golf lesson, every golfer who takes a free lesson will be entered with his or her PGA professional into a grand prize sweepstakes package, including a three-day golf getaway vacation, a playing spot in the next Annual Mia Hamm Foundation Golf Classic, a custom-fit set of golf clubs, golf footwear, apparel, bag, balls and more.

Sweepstakes cards will be available at the Custer Hill Golf Course and several golf magazines.

Events promote healthy lifestyle

By John S. Wollaston
Staff writer

Fitness experts at Fort Riley planned a month of activities aimed at getting people out of the house and into exercise as part of their efforts during National Fitness Month - May.

"We're trying to give people incentives, reasons, fun things to do to encourage them to get out and be active," said Kim Miller, fitness program manager at King Field House.

Even though fitness should be a year-round activity, Miller said high-

lighting fitness for an entire month allows a person to focus on how important fitness is in their everyday lives.

Not all aspects of fitness revolve around exercise. Diet also is critical to a healthy lifestyle and the post's activities include two hour-long sessions to learn about dietary issues.

While most people may not have the time to go to the gym for two to three hours a day, seven days a week, Miller said every little bit helps when it comes to staying healthy.

See Fitness, Page 10

Mosquitoes, ticks can transmit harmful diseases



Carla Hurlbert

By Carla Hurlbert
Conservation Division

Mosquitoes and ticks can be more than just annoying pests. They can transmit diseases that can become serious and fatal if precautions are not taken to protect oneself and the family from the risk of disease transmitted by mosquitoes and ticks.

West Nile virus is an infectious disease of birds that can also infect humans. Mosquitoes transmit the virus. West Nile virus may cause flu-like symptoms, such as headache, swollen glands and muscle aches, as well as a rash.

West Nile virus usually only causes mild symptoms in humans, but in rare cases the virus may cause encephalitis and even death. Elderly people

and those with compromised immune systems are most likely to be severely affected by West Nile virus.

People concerned about contracting West Nile virus should avoid mosquito contact by wearing long-sleeved shirts and long pants and using a mosquito repellent containing DEET at concentrations of 30 percent or less (10 percent for children). People

should avoid outdoor activities at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most active, and areas where a lot of mosquitoes exist.

People should also check around their homes and empty stagnant water from containers such as tires, birdbaths, flowerpots, swimming pool covers, buckets, barrels and cans. Homeowners should also install or repair window

and door screens to prevent mosquitoes from entering homes.

Hard ticks are the group of ticks most Kansans are familiar with and readily recognize. Only a few dozen tick-borne diseases occur in Kansas each year. However, all can be very serious and precautions should be taken.

See Diseases, Page 10





Soccer

continued from page 9



Raymundo Bernal, flies up to kick the ball over the heads of Ronald Desjarlas, center and Kenneth Jacobson, right.

standout players are relatively new to the battalion team.

Starting a little slow, Baptiste-Swift didn't get his first score until 20 minutes through the first 25-minute period.

He took the shot after a pass from Ross placed the ball right in front of the goal. Baptiste-Swift worked the ball closer in a series of starts and stops that caused each challenger to run past him before he made the point.

"I couldn't get to the ball fast enough," said Air Force Goalie Randy Paine.

Paine was ready for Baptiste-Swift's next attack and made a flying save. His effort lagged on Baptist-Swift's third attempt to score, as the ball nestled in the net to put the Infantry up 2-1.

Five minutes into the second half, Baptiste-Swift increased the

Infantry's score to 3 then 4, making it impossible for the Air Force to catch up.

The Airmen scored their only point with a penalty kick that sailed by Infantry goalie Henry Phillips.

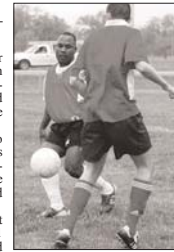
"I should have had seven goals," said a disappointed Baptiste-Swift after the game. "I had some good shots but their goalie kept them from getting in."

Baptiste-Swift is not new to soccer. As a 10 year-old boy in Trinidad, he played in the Eddy Heart Amateur League, a well-known youth league in that country.

"Every professional player in Trinidad has come from that league," said Baptiste-Swift, who also played professionally from 1997 to 1999 for the New York/New Jersey Metro-Stars.

PSB hands MEDDAC second league loss

By Gary Skidmore
Command Info. Officer



Post/Skidmore

Battalion level soccer league play April 29, between 15th Personnel Services Battalion and USA MEDDAC turned into more of a battle against the cold than against each other.

Temperatures plummeted to the upper 30s within minutes after the game started. The 20-degree drop in less than five minutes caught players and spectators unprepared.

Dipping temperatures didn't contribute to MEDDAC's 2-1 loss to PSB, however, said coach Craig Noda.

Though MEDDAC lost to 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, the week before, Noda said his players knew the team had already won the league title and that a loss to PSB wouldn't change that.

"We went into the game like we were invincible," Noda said. "We were cocky and thought we had it all."

MEDDAC's defense let PSB dominate the midfield during the first half and much of the second half.

"If you control the midfield, you control the game," Noda said.

MEDDAC came back strong in the second half, but being down 2-0 at the start of the second period was too much for them to overcome,

DJ, the newest member of the USA MEDDAC team, works the ball past his team member to help set up a goal.

said PSB player Jared Bosman. "It was a hard game," said Bosman, who hopes to try out for the upcoming All-Army Soccer Team.

"We kept the ball in the air and controlled the midfield," he said.

Noda said MEDDAC rallied at the end of the second half and managed one score but began their attack too late to tie or win the game.

"We rallied towards the end, but they just had us for most of the game and we couldn't get out of the hole."

Fitness

continued from page 9

"Even if you can do just a little bit, try to get in 30 minutes three times a week," Miller advised. "(People) have to make it (exercise) a priority."

Some activities scheduled for

fitness month include very basic things, such as wet-testing a person's foot to determine what kind of running shoe is best for them.

In a wet test, a person puts their foot in water and then steps onto a piece of paper. The type of imprint left on the paper tells whether the person has a high, medium or low arch and the corresponding type of shoe that will provide the best support.

Other planned events include instruction on stretching basics, an orientation to the gym and body fat testing.

Staff from Irwin Army Community Hospital will be at the Field House on May 25 for blood pressure and cholesterol checks as well.

Fitness Month Activities

May 7 - Walk or run Custer Hill Golf Course 2.6-mile trail, 10 to 11 a.m.

May 8 - Running clinic at Custer Hill Golf Course, 9:30 to 11 a.m. 1100; Fun Run at 11 a.m.

May 10 - Free aerobics class at King Field House, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. (class limited to 30 people max)

May 11 - Fitness - Part of a Healthy Lifestyle seminar

May 12 - Gym orientation at King Field House, 5 p.m.

May 13 - Weightlifting tips at King Field House, 4 to 5 p.m.

May 14 - Body fat analysis at King Field House, 1 to 4 p.m.

May 15 - Camp, hike and bike clinic at the Outdoor Rec., 9 a.m. to noon

May 17 - National Bike to Work Day; weightlifting tips at King Field House,

2 to 3 p.m.

May 19 - Stretching basics at King Field House, 9 a.m.

May 20 - Diet and nutrition information at King Field House, 4 to 5 p.m.

May 21 - Walk or run at Riley's 2.25-mile track, 10 to 11 a.m.

May 24 - Body fat analysis at King Field House, 1 to 4 p.m.

May 25 - Blood pressure and cholesterol check at King Field House, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

May 26 - Stretching basics at King Field House, 5 p.m.

May 28 - Safety First seminar

Diseases

continued from page 9

Tick-borne human diseases occurring in Kansas include Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Lyme disease, Tularemia and human monocytic ehrlichiosis.

People can protect themselves by planning ahead and treating clothing with permethrin-based repellent commercially available from outdoor suppliers and labeled for this use. The permethrin binds with fabric and persists through multiple washings. Once dry, the repellent has no odor.

People should store treated clothing in a plastic bag to preserve the repellent's effectiveness. Permethrin should not be applied to a person's skin and pet tick and flea collars should not be used on people. Such use may result in skin absorption and toxic reactions.

Avoid tall grass and brushy areas as much as possible in tick season — April-September.

Tuck pants inside boots and shirts inside pants to keep ticks out. Ticks can only crawl; they cannot fly or jump. Ticks climb up once they latch onto a human. Loose hanging clothing helps ticks get under clothing to attach itself to a person's skin.

Check yourself thoroughly for attached ticks after activity in tick-infested areas. Studies show that ticks most generally be attached more than 18 hours to infect someone and that prompt and proper removal prevents infection.

Remove attached ticks properly. Grasp the tick's mouthparts against the skin with pointed tweezers or fingernails and pull back slowly and steadily until the tick releases. Do not squeeze its body or apply any substance, including petroleum jelly, nail polish, alcohol, repellent or a lit match. Such actions may cause a tick to regurgitate, which increases the likelihood of disease transmission and secondary infection.

Symptoms for tick-borne diseases are often flu-like and may include fever, headache, fatigue, chills, rash, muscle aches, joint pain and swelling, loss of appetite, eye pain, vomiting, decreased concentration, memory loss, sleeplessness, restlessness, partial face paralysis and delirium.

Anyone with any of those symptoms and who suspects he or she may have bitten by a tick should seek medical attention.

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3x3MilitaryOutlet

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Black Only
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BOX N SHIP
3 x 3
Black Only
3x3 BOX N SHIP -PLEASE DO NOT





Fort Riley Community Life

Friday, May 7, 2004

America's Warfighting Center

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Community news briefly

Custer House reopens side

Custer House Side B has reopened and is available for rental by units or organizations wanting a special place to hold an event.

May has many open dates but June dates are filling up. Cost is \$20 with a refundable deposit of \$50.

To reserve a date, call Joanne Gulotta at 784-4922.

Beth Moore to be simulcast

The Chaplain's Office and Protestant Women of the Chapel will host a simulcast of the Beth Moore Living Proof Live Conference from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., May 15, at Morris Hill Chapel.

Moore is an inspiring speaker and best-selling author who identifies with discouraged women because she, too, once felt defeated before the transforming power of God's Word changed her life.

Moore acknowledges she learned an important lesson that she now shares with other women: "I learned that living in victory only happens when you absolutely surrender to the total power of God and to His truth."

Moore has made it her mission to guide women everywhere into a richer, more fulfilling relationship with God.

Bible School registration

Wild West VBS Adventures can be found at Morris Hill Chapel June 8-11. Parents can send their elementary-age cowboys and cowgirls each morning from 9 a.m. until high noon.

Registration dates are now through May 16. Pre-registration is required and space is limited.

Registration forms can be found at all chapel services, meetings and concerts.

To register by phone or e-mail, contact Althea Brown at 717-3032 or god4me@ozonline.net.

The Shoppe sells pillows

The Shoppe is selling Fort Riley Tapestry Pillows. The pre-sale price is less expensive but quantities are dwindling. Anyone wishing to purchase this one-of-a-kind item should contact The Shoppe in its new location in the U.S. Cavalry Museum, building 205, by calling 239-2743.

The Shoppe's hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday.

School hosts carnival

Fort Riley Elementary School will host its annual P.T.A. Carnival beginning at 4 p.m., May 8. This is a fund-raiser for the school.

The carnival will feature entertainment, fire department and military displays, hands-on activities, games and lots of food.

Prices for all activities run from 20 cents per game to about 75 cents for food items. All funds raised during the event will be redistributed throughout the school.

Commissary activities fill month

Awareness campaign includes case lot sales, newsletter, savings program

By Bonnie Powell
DeCA

FORT LEE, Va. -- The 2004 Commissary Awareness Month shopping list is full and includes case lot sales, single servicemember tours, special National Guard and Army Reserve

events, the launch of the Commissary Connection customer newsletter; and the launch of a new marketing program, "Savings You've Earned."

"That's just a taste of what's in store for the month of May," said Defense Commissary Agency Director Maj. Gen.

Mike Wiedemer. "It really is like a shopping list, except we're shopping for customers," not that there is any lack of customers at commissaries worldwide.

"Customers are shopping more than ever," said DeCA Deputy Director Pat Nixon, "but sales are not really what we're all

about."

Because DeCA sells groceries at cost, profit is not a motivation for increasing sales but more business means greater savings for commissary customers. When business is up, commissary vendors are often motivated to offer lower prices - prices that

DeCA passes directly to shoppers.

"That's really what we're about," Nixon said. "Our mission is to obtain the lowest prices on quality name-brand products so we can continue to save customers an average of 30 percent or more on their grocery bills."

"Commissary Awareness Month is all about savings and spreading the word to all authorized shoppers," Wiedemer said. "It serves as a focal point for celebrating the savings and celebrating the commissary benefit."

See CAM, Page 12

Time for fun



Boy Scout Troop 86 from Washington, Kan., jump over the top step of a climbing obstacle on the Fort Riley obstacle course May 1. Another Scout begins to climb up the steps right behind them. The Scouts were at Fort Riley May 1 for a Pawnee District camporee.

Scouts camp, tour post during weekend

By Mike Heronemus
Editor

About 325 Boy Scouts spent the weekend camping at Moon Lake recreation area and learning a little about Fort Riley April 30 through May 2.

Pawnee District scheduled its annual camporee at Fort Riley this year, the first time in several years, said District Executive Bob Hedley. Hedley took over as district executive seven years ago. During his time, Hedley said he has not scheduled a camporee at Fort Riley.

Fort Riley treated the Scouts to a Saturday crammed with activities.

Four groups of Scouts rotated through different areas of the post all day May 1. Their itineraries included an explanation of the

See Scouts, Page 12



Joshua Mann (left) and Kevin Omundson, both of Boy Scout Troop 75 in Manhattan, climb over the short wall of the obstacle course on Fort Riley May 1. The Scouts were on post for a Pawnee District camporee.

Maxwell picked for class

By John S. Wollaston
Staff writer

A Fort Riley employee has been selected for a statewide program offered to only a selected few people every year.

Daphne Maxwell, a legal administrative assistant with the Fort Riley Staff Judge Advocate's office joins 34 other people selected for the 2004 Leadership Kansas program.

The program aims to improve leadership skills and abilities of nominees chosen from candidates throughout the state. Participants meet in six sessions at various locations in Kansas and receive information and training designed to expand their personal and professional development. Participants discuss business, education, public policy, economics and government.

Past graduates include U.S. Congressman Jerry Moran, R-Kan., and Junction City Manager Rod Barnes. Kansas State Treasurer Lynn Jenkins will be one of Maxwell's classmates this year.

"I was surprised to receive a nomination letter in the mail," Maxwell said. "Shelley Hoyle-Kite, principal of Westwood Elementary School in Junction City nominated Maxwell for the program." (She) sent me a note telling me what she'd done and that she thought I would be a good candidate for Leadership Kansas."

Nominees must obtain three letters of recommendation from people in the community.

Maxwell mailed her three letters and said she thought, "if I'm in, great; if I'm not, I'm not going to be too disappointed."

Maxwell said she forgot about sending in the nomination letters for a "few weeks." While she and her daughter were going through college acceptance letters Maxwell said she was suddenly reminded that

See Maxwell, Page 13

Community observance remembers Holocaust

Dachau survivor, liberator share experiences with Fort Riley audience

By Cassidy Hill
Staff writer

Nearly 60 years ago, more than six million Jews died because of their religion. In order to remember their pain and anguish, Soldiers and community mem-

bers gathered at Barlow Theater on April 28, to honor those who had died during the Holocaust.

Two guest speakers for the Days of Remembrance Observance told of their first-hand experience with the Holocaust.

"This observance is to

remember the six million Jews who were separated from their families," said Master Sgt. Larry Caldwell during opening remarks.

Louis Frydman, a Holocaust survivor, spoke about how he and his family were treated when traces of the Holocaust first entered

their lives.

In January 1940, Frydman's family escaped from Lodz, Poland, when they realized the German Gestapo was forcing Jews from their homes.

Frydman said his family was forced to move into a ghetto.

"We were kicked out of our homes with nothing," Frydman said. "Before long it was evident that we were getting liquidated, which means getting killed on the spot."

Frydman said his family was able to escape being liquidated by moving to

Warsaw, passing themselves off as Christians.

"A short time later, we were apprehended and had to bribe the Gestapo agency to let us into the Warsaw ghetto," Frydman said.

See Holocaust, Page 13





Post/Heronemus

Pawnee District Boy Scouts pet Chief after getting an explanation from Spc. Matthew Hutzenbiler (center in cavalry uniform) about the uniform, weapons and horse equipment U.S. cavalrymen of the mid-1850s used while serving in the frontier West.

Scouts

continued from page 11

mid-1800s cavalry uniform, weaponry and horse gear used by members of the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard; a tour of the Main Post area, including stops at or information about the national cemetery on post, the Wounded Knee and Ogden monuments, Locomotive No. 6072, Camp Whiteside, Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood's headquarters and the Great War Memorial; visits to the U.S. Cavalry Museum and the 1st Territorial Capitol of Kansas; a chance to run part of the Soldier obstacle course and see a military working dog demonstration; and time to play what Col.

John Simpson, the Fort Riley garrison commander, told them was the best video game in the world. Simpson was referring to the Abrams tank and Bradley fighting vehicle simulators at the Close Combat Tactical Trainer. More than 20 people on the CCTT staff helped the Scouts experience some of the digital training Soldiers do at Fort Riley.

The Scouts also helped with the flag-lowering ceremony at Ware Parade Field in front of the post headquarters at the end of the day that Saturday. A post chaplain provided church services at Moon Lake the following morning.

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CAM

continued from page 11

"Extreme" savings are reason to celebrate for many customers.

September's successful "World's Biggest Case Lot Sale" will be expanded to a second worldwide sale during Commissary Awareness Month in May. Case lot sales routinely save customers 50 percent or more off regular prices for paper products, cereal, canned goods, beverages, cleaning supplies and more.

Commissaries have the freedom to schedule their sales anytime during May. Fort Riley's sale is scheduled May 15-16.

Customers should check other local commissary Web pages under the "Locations" link at <http://www.commissaries.com> to find case lot sale dates and hours of operation at nearby commissaries.

While visiting DeCA's Web site, customers can sign up for the new "Commissary Connection" e-mail newsletter offering commissary news, tips, and Hot Links to Web sites that can steer them to more savings.

Commissary Awareness Month is also the time of year when commissaries make a concerted effort to reach new customers through "show and tell" tours for single servicemembers, new servicemembers and National Guard and Army Reserve families.

Reserve forces were granted unlimited commissary shopping privileges by the 2004 Defense Authorization Act signed in

Commissary sets case lot sale

Fort Riley's commissary will try something new for the case lot sale May 15-16.

Customers should pick up an order sheet at the commissary starting the April 22. The filled-out order sheet should be taken to the commissary office, where a copy will be made so the commissary staff can pull the order and set it aside.

Customers can return May 13-14 to pick up any coupons needed and pay for the merchandise.

Customers must keep their receipts because showing the receipt is the only way to prove the order has been paid for.

To pick up merchandise May 15-16, drive to the rear of the commissary, where employees will help with the order.

If the merchandise does not arrive due to a distributor problem, customers will receive a refund.

All items in the case lot will be on display in the front of the commissary May 10-16.

For more information, call 239-2921.

November 2003. "Our goal is to make sure every Guard and Reserve family gets the word that the commissary can put money in their pockets and food on their tables," Nixon said.

"Throughout the year there will be welcoming ceremonies and outreach activities at U.S. stores, and many commissaries will conduct off-site case lot sales.

Basically, that's when we take the store to the Guard and Reserve, offering a taste of what they can experience if they shop at their commissary.

It's a way to introduce them to their benefit and encourage them to shop," he said. Regular com-

missary shopping can save about \$2,700 annually for a family of four, according to DeCA officials.

The annual single servicemember campaign in May is geared toward introducing new and single shoppers to their commissary.

"Many of our new and single military members don't realize they can save as much as \$700 a year by shopping regularly for their personal items, vitamins and over the counter medicines, snacks and beverages and more," said Scott Simpson, DeCA's chief operating officer.

In the past the single servicemember campaigns have included programs such as Better Opportu-

nities for Single Soldiers, Single Marines and Navy Liberty.

The Air Force doesn't have a formal single servicemember program, but for the first time many First-Term Airmen centers will be participating in Commissary Awareness Month tours.

Commissary Awareness Month ends with a patriotic splash Memorial Day weekend with the launch of "Savings You've Earned" on May 27.

"This is a brand new worldwide commissary signage and marketing program," Simpson said. "Savings You've Earned" should help customers easily identify what's on sale. The red, white and blue shelf signs, posters, banners and employee buttons will create excitement in commissaries worldwide and reinforce commissary savings messages."

"We want to make sure our customers feel welcome in their commissaries and that they are taking full advantage of the savings," Wiedemer said. "It truly is savings they deserve, Savings They've Earned."

26 Ogden fifth-graders tour Irwin

Special to the Post

Twenty-six fifth-graders and two teachers from Ogden Elementary School toured Irwin Army Community Hospital April 16.

The tour was part of the Kids 2000 mentoring program sponsored by the hospital. The mentoring program has resulted in an ongoing relationship between the hospital and the school. Five mentors met with children weekly during the school year.

Additionally, several speakers addressed school assemblies throughout the year.

Students arrived at 10:45 a.m. for the tour and organized into three groups.

From 11 a.m. to noon the groups rotated through the hospital's emergency room, physical therapy facility and the education bay.

Some divisions in the hospital set up displays in the dining facility, where the students gathered for lunch.

The hospital commander addressed the students while they ate lunch, and then answered the students' questions.

After lunch, the students visited the U.S. Cavalry Museum before returning to school.

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Community news briefly

SFSC activities:

May 7 -- Army Family Team Building-Level I, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

May 12 -- PCS briefing-Germany, 1:30 to 4 p.m.

May 13 -- Kickball party with the New Parent Support Program and The Exceptional Family Member Program, 12:30 to 2 p.m.

May 14 -- Newcomer's orientation, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Men's Bible group meets

A long-term men's Bible study group began meeting from 5:15 to 6:15 a.m. April 29 at Kapapa Chapel on Custer Hill.

This group will meet weekly on Thursdays. All men are invited.

For more information, call Chap. (Capt.) Glenn Palmer at 784-8384 or 239-9565.

Group invites participation

The local Special Olympics group invites families who have special needs individuals to join them in their upcoming events.

Special Olympics is a worldwide program providing year-round training, education and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for people age 8 and older with mental and physical retardation.

For more information, call Geary County representatives Otis Scroggins at 238-1342 or Bob Alan at 762-2149.

Crafts center sets classes

May 9 -- Scrapbooking get-together, 1 to 4:30 p.m.

May 10 -- Basket weaving, 6 p.m.

May 10 -- Crochet, knitting, cross-stitch, 7 p.m.

May 11 -- Matting and framing orientation, 6 to 9 p.m.

Agencies offer baby-sitting

The Armed Services YMCA in Junction City will provide free baby-sitting for parents attending one of the Soldier and Family Support Center programs or respite programs offered by the New Parents Support Program, Exceptional Family Member Program, Family Advocacy or social services on post.

For information about the respite programs, call 239-9435.

Youth Services also offers respite for a couple of hours two Saturdays a month for spouses of deployed soldiers.

For more information, call Youth Services at 239-4847.

The Armed Services YMCA is at 111 E. 16th St. in Junction City.

Teen Center activities:

May 7 -- Middle school dance, 8 to 10:30 p.m.

May 8 -- High school dance, 9 to 11:30 p.m.

May 14 -- Midnight Softball and BBQ, 8 p.m. to midnight

For more information, call the Teen Center at 239-9222.

At the movies:

The doors at Barlow Theater open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children age 5 to 11. Children under age 5 are admitted free except during children's matinees or expected sell-outs.

May 7 -- The Passion of the Christ (R)

May 8 -- Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (PG)

May 9 -- The Passion of the Christ (R)

May 13 -- Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind (R)

Holocaust

continued from page 11

In a Warsaw bunker deep underground, Frydman, his family and 400 other Jews hid from the Gestapo. Frydman said it didn't take the Gestapo very long to find them.

"Sixty-one years ago today, on April 28, 1943, they broke through our bunker," Frydman said. "It took them eight days to dynamite the bunker to get to us and within half an hour we had to decide whether or not to surrender or fight."

Frydman said there were two revolvers in the bunker but that no one knew if they could even fire. More than 400 Jews surrendered to the Gestapo that day.

"They ... shot all of the grown men and forced all of the women and children into the burning ghetto," Frydman said.

By this time, Frydman said, Germany was running out of manpower in the weapon manufacturing industry. His mother forced 12-year-old Frydman and his 13-year-old brother to work for the Germans in order to escape deportation to a concentration camp.

Frydman and his brother

worked in a German manufacturing plant for a short time until Frydman was forced to go on a death march.

After four days without food or water, Frydman collapsed and couldn't get up. His brother, who was able to continue the march, was forced to leave him.

Everyone too weak to continue the march was loaded on a military truck and taken to a nearby concentration camp.

After not eating for several days, Frydman fainted. He recalled waking up in a U.S. Air Force hospital with no idea why he was there or how long he had been there.

Drafted from a high school in Junction City, Fred Stueve was assigned to a unit that helped liberate the Dachau concentration camp.

Once overseas, Stueve said his tank recovery unit was preparing to travel to Munich, Germany.

"Along the way we rounded a curve with lots of trees, and that's when we found a fence that had a lot of barbed wire on it," Stueve said. "We did not know what we

were getting into, but lo and behold we had found Dachau."

Stueve said his unit began searching the concentration camp, which had a long cargo train parked on the tracks beside it. His unit opened up one boxcar and found that it was full of people.

Stueve said many people fell out and died right there. He said there were 40 boxcars loaded with people. Many of them were still alive, but they were thin as skeletons.

Stueve's unit called for medical help. He said he would never forget what he saw.

"To see the bodies and the smell that you had, you'll never forget," Stueve said. "We asked ourselves, 'how can humans treat humans like this?' but it was happening all over Europe. They did experiments with the bodies and when they were done, they threw them in a mass grave. They would take the skin off a body and make a lampshade out of it."

"It's unbelievable what they were doing, and 59 years ago today, on April 29, 1945, we liberated Dachau," said Stueve.

Maxwell

continued from page 11

she'd applied for the program. Among the letters from the various colleges was one from Leadership Kansas.

"I opened it up and it said, 'Dear Daphne, Congratulations on your selection as a member of Leadership Kansas 2004,'" Maxwell explained. "I was speechless at that point, and I thought, oh my goodness, I'm in the class! What do I do now?"

Since she found out that she'd been selected for this year's class, Maxwell has received kudos from her coworkers in Patton Hall and has received mail from past graduates.

"I've been getting mail from all



Daphne Maxwell

Junction City and Fort Riley in this year's class. She says that she believes going through the program will help in her personal and professional life.

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2 x 5.5 Seth Childs Movie List

BROOKS YAMAHA
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2x6 New Ad

AAFES aids moves

Special to the Post

DALLAS — The Army and Air Force Exchange Service offers access to a new Military Moving Center service online that can help military families compare and buy utility, telephone, video, Internet access and other household services.

The service is available to all military and authorized AAFES customer households at www.aafes.com on the Internet.

"The Military Moving Center, developed and operated by QCorps, enables military consumers to conveniently compare and purchase household

Kathryn Frost. "The Military Moving Center is designed to be a powerful tool for our mobile customers."

The QCorps Military Moving Center, available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, offers a one-stop shopping experience that saves servicemembers time by allowing them to complete purchases quickly, typically only three minutes per service.

QCorps claims its site also saves military customers money with Guaranteed Best Prices from each service provider and special deals available only for the military. More than 400 service providers offer their services through the Military Moving Center.

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Travel & Fun in Kansas

Page 16

America's Warfighting Center

Friday, May 7, 2005

Leisuretime ideas

Emporia:

Car show — Show open to all classes of vehicles in beautiful shaded park; May 15, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; South Commercial Street at the Cottonwood River, Soden's Grove Park. For more information, call (620) 342-0944.

Council Grove:

Cutting Horse Contest — Competition involving national professional and novice cutting horse riders and their professionally trained horses; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., May 15 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., May 16; East Highway 56, Fairgrounds Arena. For more information, call (620) 767-5882 or 1-800-732-9211 or visit www.councilgrove.com on the Internet.

Abilene:

Team Roping — Men's ranch rodeo top-team roping event; May 16, 11 a.m. into the evening; Wild Bill Hickok Arena, Central Kansas Fairgrounds. For more information, call (785) 388-2650.

In Abbyville:

Frontier Days Rodeo and BBQ — Rodeo, games, team penning, tractor pull; starts 9 a.m. May 14, 7:30 p.m. May 15; Main Street. For more information, call (620) 286-5398.

Argonia:

Argonia Daze Celebration & Rodeo — Family festival with parade down Main Street and dinner in the park, various sports tournaments, fun run, rodeo both nights; May 14-15; Salter and River Parks. For more information, call (620) 435-6417 or visit www.argonia-akansas.com on the Internet.

KLOUDBusters Rocket Launches — High-powered large model rocketry club hosts local, national, and international competitions and fun-fly launches almost every month at their launch site; now through Dec. 12; 8 miles south and 1 1/2 miles east of Argonia. For more information, call (620) 435-6417 or visit www.kloudbusters.org on the Internet.

Merriam:

Turkey Creek Festival — All-day festivities include a parade, arts and crafts, pancake feed, concessions, paddle boats, concerts, petting zoo, train ride,

moonwalk, "Teen Zone" with remote control cars and live Teen Band; May 15, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; 6501 Antioch Park. For more information, call (913) 722-7750 or visit www.exploremerriam.org on the Internet.

Fredonia:

Gold Dust Days Festival — Historic festival celebrates the 1885 opening of the Gold Dust Hotel; re-enactments; musical performances; historic displays; demonstrations; Fredonia Fire Department will be selling its famous sausage sandwiches; May 22, all day; Downtown Square. For more information, call (620) 378-3221 or visit www.fredoniachamber.com on the Internet.

Olathe:

Passport to Adventure — Hike the creatures feature trail and meet wild Kansas animals, now through Sept. 26, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., 909 N. Highway 7. For more information, call (913) 764-7759 or visit www.erniemiller.com on the Internet.

Kansas City:

Woodlands Great American Greyhound Futurity — Greyhounds from across America compete in the world's richest greyhound race, one of the premier events in the greyhound industry; May 25, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; 9700 Leavenworth Road. For more information, call (913) 299-9797 or (800) 695-7223 or visit www.woodland-sk.com on the Internet.

Salina:

Smoky Hill Contra Dance — Music by Scenic Roots, caller Jim Williams; all dances taught; no partner or experience necessary; wear comfortable, casual clothing and soft-soled shoes; bring water to drink; May 22; lessons at 7 p.m., dance from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.; 146 S. Santa Fe, Dance Elite Studio. For more information, call (785) 819-3292 or visit www.kansasfolk.org/contra/salina.html on the Internet.

Cottonwood Falls:

Prairie Drifter Sunset Tour — Open air two-hour ride in 1958 grain truck through 20 miles of scenic Flint Hills back roads. Friday and Saturday nights only, through Oct. 31. For more information, call (620) 273-6763.

History survives



The Kaw Mission state historical site in Council Grove is one of the original buildings on the Council Grove townsite. During its early years, it was a school for members of the Kaw Indian tribe.

129th MPAD/
Baker

Visitors walk through past in present day Council Grove

By Marvin Baker
129th MPAD

COUNCIL GROVE -- Mixing historical significance with modern amenities, tourism in this Santa Fe Trail community has returned the hustle and bustle it experienced during America's westward expansion.

Wagon trains that traversed the trail through Council Grove by the hundreds through the 1840s have given way to asphalt trails traveled by sports cars, recreational vehicles and 16-wheelers. A territorial Indian reservation is gone but not forgotten, and the seemingly lawless men of the Kansas frontier exist today only in name. Historic and modern links to Fort Riley are also evident.

The historic sites -- 21 in all, with seven on the National Register of Historic Places -- remain mostly intact, drawing visitors from all over the world.

It takes a significant amount of work to maintain them, according to Loretta Keyser, a Council Grove tour guide. However, local residents insist a strong pride in the community saved the sites and helped develop new tourist attractions, increasing traffic significantly and returning Council Grove, population about 2,200, to its territorial prominence.

"There's a lot of volunteerism here," Keyser said. "History means a great deal to us, probably

because of the trail. It's the most significant place in Kansas on the trail."

One of the interesting things about Council Grove's historic sites is that children enjoy many of them, Keyser said. Other sites appeal to historians, soldiers and their families.

"We try to keep Council Grove beautiful and safe, as well as historic," she said.

The 21 sites, most of which are on the National Register of Historic Places, the National Historic Santa Fe Trail List or the Council Grove National Historic Landmark District, offer something for everyone.

The original sites are the Kaw Mission State Historic Site, Old Bell Monument, Hermit's Cave, Last Chance Store, Santa Fe Trail Ruins, Cottage House Hotel, Farmers and Drivers Bank, Conn Stone Store, Council Grove National Bank Building, Hays House, Seth Hays Home, Custer Elm, Neosho River Crossing, Post Office Oak and Museum, Council Oak, Terwilliger Home and Old Stone Barn.

More recent additions include The Madonna of the Trail, Durland Park, Neosho Riverwalk and Guardian of the Grove.

In addition, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers developed Council Grove City Lake, which is a fishing and boating area. The lake is open to the public, but spe-



129th MPAD/BAKER
This oak tree along the Santa Fe Trail in Council Grove once served as the local post office.

cial licenses may be required.

South of town, in Chase County, is the Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve.

Council Grove is the Morris County seat and contains its own shopping district substantial enough to support the community and the surrounding farm population.

But it's the historic sites that really make this town tick, said Diane Nusbaum, of the Conven-

tion and Visitors Bureau.

"What's unique is this was the rendezvous spot for wagon trains headed west," Nusbaum said.

"It was the last place they would find water and wood. Almost all historic sites have something to do with the Santa Fe Trail," she said.

The Santa Fe Trail began in August 1825. It stretched from Franklin, Mo., to Santa Fe, N.M. It was a right-of-way obtained through a treaty with the Osage Indian tribe that was supposed to guarantee safe passage to the southwest.

By 1880, railroads forced the trail to fade into history. The busiest time in the Kansas section was in the 1840s, Nusbaum said.

History claims George Custer camped under the Custer Elm and signed a treaty with the Indians.

The Kaw Mission was built by the U.S. government to teach Indian children western ways.

The Post Office Oak is where westbound pioneers dropped letters and those going east picked them up.

Each site has its own story. Self-guiding tour brochures showing the sites are usually available at each site.

Those interested in reserving guided tours and learning about the costs should contact Nusbaum's office at 1-800-732-9211, or log on to the CVB Web site at www.councilgrove.com.

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